The Bible & Daily Living

Confronted by a powerful presence

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
CONFRONTED BY A POWERFUL PRESENCE
Lesson for April 3, 1983
Bible Study Passage: Acts 9:1-16

Introduction

When Jesus died people thought his sun had set for good. His enemies believed they had doused his fire and darkened his light. But his sun tore asunder the blackness and brought a strange, new day. Suddenly his gallows ceased to be an implement of death and became instead a symbol of life.

Paul saw a new day while traveling along the road to Damascus. Paul was earlier known as Saul before his dramatic encounter with Christ. Saul spent a great deal of energy persecuting the Christians. His life was changed dramatically after he met Christ.

There are moments in life when we are made strangely aware of the powerful presence of Christ. He may come to us in a sunset, a field of flowers, in a rolling surf at oceanside, through a book or in a person. And when he speaks to us we know we have been visited by a power from on high.

In this week's lesson we will study the effect the risen Christ had upon a man bent upon curing the spread of Christianity.

An Aborted Mission [Acts 9:1-2]

When Paul encountered Jesus, he was on his way to carry out his personal mission of putting down Christianity. But during his trip he experiences an encounter that knocked him to his knees. When he rises to his feet he no longer seeks to persecute the Christians. Instead, he embraces the Christian faith and becomes its most powerful and influential spokesperson.

Paul's initial mission to arrest Jewish Christians was aborted and forgotten. His new mission was to preach Christ as the Saviour of all who would trust and follow.

Have you ever had a change of heart and went another direction entirely different from your original goal or destination? Some choices tug at us until we cannot resist their power any longer.

A Voice of Affirmation [Acts 9:3-9]

"Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Paul met the One who had been the object of his persecution. When Jesus spoke to him, Paul and those who were traveling with him were stunned. In meeting Jesus, Paul's battle was over. No longer would he have to wage that inner war; he would be at peace with God and with himself.

When Paul entered Damacus, he did so as a new man. Paul knew exactly what he was talking about when he wrote, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (II Cor. 5:17)

A line from Handel's Messiah states, "Even so in Christ, shall all be made alive." This pretty well sums up Paul's dramatic change. He was a dead man prior to meeting Jesus.

A Call To Serve [Acts 9:10-16]

Not everyone was excited to see or hear of Paul's conversion. Some looked on with skeptical eyes and . . understandably so. We are generally leary of a crooked person all of a sudden acting straight!

Paul's reputation still followed him, even though his hardened heart had been softened and warmed by the glow of Christ. A man named Ananias was sent to lay hands on Paul in order to restore his sight. Following God's command, Ananias went and restored sight to Paul's darkened eyes.

Paul was baptized and blessed to launch his new career as the greatest missionary.

Easter represents a time for new beginnings. With the birth of spring there are visible signs of new and refreshing life. Easter represents new possibilities for everyone. Easter is a celebration of renewed life and hope.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois. (WLYP).

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Ecumenical service set

The Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service will be held at Liberty Baptist Church at 7 a.m. Easter morning.

This worship is the culmination of the ecumenical worship that has been done at noon each day of this week.

Participating churches include St. Anne's Episcopal, Appomattox Court House Presbyterian, Liberty Baptist, Our Lady of Peace Roman Catholic, and Memorial United Methodist.

The speaker will be the Rev. Harmon Smith, vicar, St. Anne's Episcopal Church.

Everyone is invited to participate in the worship service.

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Bill Sherrod.....Editor
Frances Paulette.....Assistant Editor
Allen Austin.....Advertising Manager
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Church News

Pleasant Grove service set

Easter service will be held at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church on Highway 24 in Buckingham County at 6:15 a.m.

A fellowship hour will follow the service, with breakfast served by the Ladies of the church.

The Rev. Robert Wilkerson, pastor, invites you to attend this worship service.

Music planned at Gravel Hill

The Holy Gospel Singers will be at the Gravel Hill Baptist Church on May 22 at 7 p.m. The program is sponsored by Nellie Berkley.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Yellow Branch plans activities

Easter activities at Yellow Branch Baptist Church will begin with a community Easter egg hunt, at 2 p.m. Saturday. Parents are invited to bring children, the eggs will be furnished by the church. Sly Ci, the Christian Magician, will entertain with some tricks, his loving rabbit "Sugar Bugger" will be there, along with "Egg Roll" the Chinese Pigeon.

There will be a sunrise service Sunday at 6 a.m. followed by coffee, juice, donuts, rolls, etc. The church choirs will present John W. Peterson's cantata "Hallelujah, What a Saviour" at 7 p.m.

Golden Trumpeteers to sing

The Golden Trumpeteers will be in concert at Mt. Zion Baptist Church April 3 at 7 p.m. The program will be for the benefit of the Mt. Zion Usher Board.

We ask that everyone come out and help to make this program a success.

Our special prayers go out to the sick and shut-in.

Springfield service planned

"And the angel answered and said unto the women, fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus which was crucified. He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." St. Matthew 28:5,6.

Easter Sunrise Services will be held at the Springfield Baptist Church, April 3, at 6 a.m. The pastor, Rev. Harrison Kelso, will deliver the Easter message and combined choirs will render the music.

You are cordially invited to worship with us.

New Hope plans services

The Rev. Bob Williams, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, extends a cordial invitation to you to worship on Sunday, April 3. Opportunities will include an Easter Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. consisting of special music, an Easter message and the ordinance of the Lord's Supper.

Sunday School will follow at 10 a.m. and special Easter music, Alleluia Message In Song, combining the adult and youth choirs, led by Barry Elder, choir director, at 11 a.m.

"I urge all members and visitors to be present on this day of special worship services for the Glory of God," urged Williams.

New Hope Baptist Church is located five miles east of Appomattox on Highway 24. Phone 352-7968.

'Tenebrae' observance set

A special observance of the Lord's Supper called "Tenebrae," meaning "darkness" will be observed at Memorial United Methodist Church on Maundy Thursday, March 31, 1983 at 8 p.m.

This solemn observance was first celebrated in the fourth century. In this service, eight candles are gradually extinguished, symbolizing the flight and denial of the disciples and friends of Jesus at the time of his crucifixion.

A ninth candle, symbolizing Christ, remains lighted throughout the service. The light of Christ can never be extinguished, for in it we find forgiveness and fellowship in communion with our Lord.

Special music will be provided by the sanctuary choir, accompanied by organ and instrumental quartet of strings and flute.

The public is invited to this special celebration.

Canaan sets services

The Senior Choir will be singing at Cannan on Friday night at 8 p.m. for the Pre-Easter service. The service will be at Mt. Zion on Thursday night.

Easter Sunday Sunrise service will be held here Sunday morning at 5:30 a.m. Come out and worship with us.

The Youth Adult Choir will meet Tues., April 5 at 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, April 9, the Heavenly Messenger will be here at 7:30 p.m.

Regular preaching will be held the second Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

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Deaths

Hayward Woodford Campbell Sr.

AMHERST - Hayward Woodford Campbell Sr., 50, died Sunday morning, March 27, in Sacramento, Calif.

His wife is Theresa F. Campbell. Born in Amherst County, he was the son of the late Harold Ivon Campbell and Virginia Lucille Campbell. He worked for John Dinmen, a contractor in Sacramento, and was a member of Rocklin First Baptist Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons, Hayward W. Campbell Jr. and Edward Campbell, a daughter, Micelle Campbell, two stepsons, Michael Chapman and Rick Price, and a stepdaughter, Mrs. Patti P. Jordan, all of Sacramento, Calif.; nine sisters, Mrs. Ina C. Waterman of Lebonoa, Conn., Mrs. Annie C. James, Concord, Mrs. Beatrice C. Campbell, Clifford, Mrs. Sheckley A. Campbell of Elkton, Md., Mrs. Sandra C. Maddox, Mrs. Vera C. Cash and Mrs. Patti P. Jordan, all of Amherst, Mrs. Joyce C. Campbell of Limestone, Maine, and Mrs. Belenda C. Fortune, Staunton; four brothers, Harold G. Campbell, Amherst, Ivon Campbell, Lowesville, Horatio B. Campbell of Greensburg, Pa., and Theodore H. Campbell, Monroe; and two stepgrandchildren.

Graveside memorial services were conducted at 2 p.m. Friday at the Campbell family cemetery.

Leonard H. Childers, Sr.

Leonard Herman Childers, Sr., 89, of Route 3, died Friday, March 25, in the Medical Care Center. He was the husband of the late Ethel Marsh Childers.

He was born in Appomattox County, a son of the late James Edward Childers and Elizabeth Hamilton Childers. He was a life-long member of Herman Methodist Church and a retired farmer.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Raymond (Kitty) Godsey, Appomattox; four sons, L. H. Childers, Jr., Roanoke, Thomas E. Childers, Appomattox, and Jerald J. Childers and Paul S. Childers, both of Lynchburg; 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. T. G. (Elizabeth) Marsh, Appomattox.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Sunday at Robinson Funeral Home by the Rev. David Camden. Burial was in Old Herman Cemetery.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Mrs. Hattie G. George

Mrs. Hattie Guill George, 65, of Route 1, died Sunday evening, March 27, at her residence following a long illness.

She was the wife of Percy W. George. Born in Appomattox County, she was a daughter of the late Joel L. Guill and Bertha Carter Guill. She was a homemaker and a member of Memorial Untied Methodist Church.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by three sons, Jerry Arnold George and Michael Lynn George, both of Appomattox, and Joel Calvin George, Lynchburg; six grandchildren; three sisters, Mrs. Rachel G. Robertson and Mrs. Clara G. Mitchell, both of Appomattox, and Mrs. Hester G. Witt, Lynchburg; three brothers, Julian Guill and Jimmy Guill, both of Appomattox, and Dan Guill, Lynchburg.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Memorial United Methodist Church. Burial was in Liberty Cemetery.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Clark G. Johnson

Clark Gleason (Pete) Johnson, 49, of Route 2, died Thursday night, March 24, at his residence.

Born in Appomattox, he was a son of Herman Taylor Johnson and Gracie Cumbie Johnson of Appomattox. He was a member of Friendship Baptist Church and was employed at J.E. Jamerson & Sons Inc., general contractors.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife, Nancy Mayberry Johnson; two sons, Clark G. Johnson Jr. and Johnny Darrell Johnson, and a daughter, Tammy Ann Allen, all of Appomattox; two grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. Arwilda J. Martin of Spout Spring.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. at Robinson Funeral Home, Appomattox. Burial was in Wooldridge family cemetery.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Russell M. Mann

Russell McKinley Mann, 78, of Harrell St., died March 23 at his residence.

Born in Appomattox County, he was a son of the late John D. Mann and Mary Chenault Mann. He was a retired employee of Appomattox Farmers Supply and was an Appomattox volunteer fireman for 38 years.

He is survived by his wife, Ola Johnson Mann; two sons, R. Wayne Mann, Appomattox, and Carlton C. Mann, Lynchburg; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, four sisters, Mrs. Odelle M. Godsey, Appomattox, Mrs. Elsie M. Cyrus, Lynchburg, Mrs. Willie M. Chernault, Spout Spring, and Mrs. Ermel M. Bomar, Austin, Tex., and one brother, J. Randolph Mann, Waynesboro, Mo.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday at 11 a.m. from Robinson Funeral Home. Burial was in Liberty Cemetery.

Those wishing to make memorials please consider the Appomattox Rescue Squad.

Helen Drinkard Thomas

CONCORD - Helen Drinkard Thomas, 76, died at 7 p.m. Friday, March 25 in the University of Virginia hospital. She was the wife of Lyle B. Thomas.

Born in Campbell County, she was a daughter of the late William Drinkard and Hattie Inge Drinkard. She was a member of Bethel United Methodist Church.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by one son, Ray B. Thomas, Concord; four daughters, Mrs. Vincent (Faye) Russell, Richmond, Mrs. Kelley (Anne) Statton and Mrs. Calvin (Stella) Tanner, both of Concord, and Mrs. Richard (Charlene) Raddin, Greenville, S.C.; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; one brother, J. E. Drinkard, Route 3, Lynchburg; three sisters, Mrs. Margaret Anderson, Mrs. Janice Perkins, and Mrs. Bea Shelton, all of Norge. She was preceded in death by a brother, Odell Drinkard.

Funeral services were held at 4 p.m. Sunday at Robinson Funeral Home by the Rev. David Camden. Burial was in Concord Cemetery.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Miss Nash, Mr. Amos marry

Photo by Joe Vaughan

Mrs. James Gordon Amos

The marriage of Miss Joanne Marie Nash to Mr. James Gordon Amos was an event of Saturday, March 26, at seven o'clock in the evening in the Memorial United Methodist Church in Appomattox.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David S. Nash of Appomattox and the bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Amos Sr. of Dillwyn.

The Reverend Henry Elwood Riley Jr., of Richmond and the Reverend Paul Edward Leonard Jr., pastor of the church, officiated at the double ring candlelight ceremony before an altar of palms and a floral arch.

A program of nuptial music was presented by Miss Debbie Rush of Appomattox, organist; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Vaughan, soloists, accompanied by Miss Rush, organist and Mrs. Margaret Anne Lollis, of Raleigh, North Carolina, pianist, and cousin of the bride. Selections included "You And I", "The Lord's Prayer", "One Hand, One Heart", and "The Wedding Song". A prayer to the tune of "Believe" was sung by the congregation.

The bride, escorted by her father, and given in marriage by her parents, wore a candlelight gown of organza with a Victorian neckline trimmed with alencon lace and accented with pearls and sequins. The fitted bodice featured an illusion yoke of reembroidered alencon lace, the long fitted sleeves were designed with venise lace and satin buttons. Her full skirt of organza flowed into a cathedral train bordered in re-embroidered alencon lace. Her matching headpiece was trimmed with venise lace and touched with pearls and sequins. The three-tiered illusion veil was waltz length and edged with matching alencon lace. The bride carried a formal bridal cascade with Phaletepinon orchids, Butterfuly Roses, Stephanotis, Forget Me Nots, Baby's Breath and English Ivy.

Mrs. Nancy Waite Amos, sister-in-law of the groom, was matron of honor. She wore a gown of Nordic Rose taffeta with a full skirt and bodice of taffeta ruching worn off the shoulders with a sash which formed a rose. She carried a flowing formal cascade bouquet of light mauve Butterfuly roses, Queens Annes Lace, Forget Me Nots, Baby's Breath and Eucalyptus.

Bridesmaids were Mrs. Linda E. DeMuth of Prospect, cousin of the bride; Mrs. Susan P. Elder of Lynchburg, cousin of the bride; Mrs. Margaret Anne Lollis of Raleigh, North Carolina, cousin of the bride; and Miss Carol Whitehead of Lynchburg. Their dresses were identical to that of the honor attendant and they carried bouquets similar to that of the honor attendant.

Mr. Samuel W. Amos, Jr., of Boydton, brother of the groom, was best man. Ushers were Mr. Gray Sylvester Nash of Appomattox, brother of the bride; Mr. William Edward Lewis, of Appomattox; Mr. David Allen Owen of Lynchburg; and Mr. Walter Golden Amos of Lynchburg, cousin of the groom.

Miss Staci Leigh Hanna, cousin of the bride, was flower girl. She wore a formal length, bishop, hand smocked gown of Nordic Rose. She wore rose and blue flowers and streamers in her hair. She carried a white wicker basket from which she dropped rose petals.

Master Brandon Dale Senger of Prospect was ring bearer. He wore formal attire similar to the groomsmen.

Honored guests escorted by Mr. Gray Nash included Mrs. Evan DeJarnette, maternal grandmother of the bride; Mrs. Hunter S. nash, paternal grandmother of the bride, and Mrs. Walter Golden Amos, Sr., paternal grandmother of the groom.

Mrs. Betty Tuck of Lynchburg was mistress of ceremonies. Attending the guest register were Mrs. Cynthia Nash Hubbard and Mrs. Susan Roakes Nash. Programs were distributed by Mrs. Joanne Jordan Nash.

For her daughter's wedding, Mrs. Nash chose a gown of powder blue jersey knit. The V neckline was accented with venice lace and sequins with a chiffon overlay skirt. She wore a corsage of contrasting orchids.

Mrs. Amos, mother of the groom, wore a gown of burgundy jersey knit with a chiffon overblouse trimmed in lace with a satin cummerbund. She wore a corsage of contrasting orchids.

Following the ceremony, the parents of the bride entertained with a reception at Falling River Country Club. Mrs. Jane Pack and Mrs. Frances Paulette, both of Appomattox and Mrs. Dorothy Balla of Lynchburg were in charge of the reception. They were assisted by Mrs. Frances P. Harvey, Mrs. Janet Noble, Mrs. Mary Ellen Marshall, Mrs. Elsie M. Burks, Mrs. Myrtle M. White, Mrs. Christine Knight, Mrs. Isabelle M. Coleman, Miss Kathy Balla, and Mrs. David A. Banton.

Mrs. Susan Gravett Boyer and Mrs. Joyce Mitten Parker, Mrs. Mary Parris Goin, Ms. Linda Banten Redd and Miss Lina Trent served cake and punch to the guests.

The bride is a graduate of Prince Edward Academy, Farmville, she attended Longwood College and received a degree in accounting from Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond. She is employed with the Auditor of Public Accounts.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Buckingham High School and is a graduate of Old Dominion University, receiving a degree in engineering. He is employed as a Design Engineer with the City of Lynchburg.

For her going away outfit the bride chose a lavendar suit with scalloped jacket and white blouse.

Following a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple will reside in Appomattox.

Cheryl Conner honored

Miss Cheryl Denise Conner was honored with a miscellaneous shower on March 26, at the home of Mrs. Clyde Nash. The guests were served a mini-supper in a country atmosphere of blue and white check with baskets of flowers.

Those in attendance were friends and relatives, Mrs. Judy Conner, mother of the bride-elect; Mrs. Bell Reynolds, mother of the groom-elect; Mrs. Thelma Conner and Mrs. Irma Smith, grandmothers of the bride elect.

Cheryl received many useful gifts and was presented with an antique victorian lady's slipper chair from her hostesses, Edith Nash and Charlene Nash.

The wedding will be held on Saturday, May 14 at seven o'clock in the evening at Liberty Baptist Church, Appomattox.

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Wildflower tour set

Spring wildflowers and forestry will be a few of the topics covered on Westvaco Corporation's Wildflower /Woodlands Tours for area Garden Clubs and other interested persons.

The day-long tours will be held on April 27, 28 and 29 on Westvaco's Buffalo Creek Nature Area in Bedford County near Evington.

Westvaco foresters with special knowledge of wildflowers indentification will guide walks through several different ecological habitats. This will allow tour participants to see a variety of wildflowers, ferns and other vegetation. The participants will also see modern, scientific forest management practices on this working forest. The relationship of modern forestry activities to wildlife habitat, watershed protection, recreation and the timber products supply will be discussed.

This will be the 6th year for the Wildflower/Woodlands tours hosted by Westvaco. Last year tour participants located and identified over fifty wild flower species in bloom. More than seventy Garden Clubs from the Central Virginia area have been invited. Registration for participating in the tours is required by April 20th.

For information on registration for the tours, write to Westvaco Wildflowers, P.O. Box WV, Appomattox, Virginia 24522.

Lina Trent entertained

Mrs. H. Broderick Pack, III entertained at her home on Sunday afternoon with a bridal shower honoring Miss Lina Trent and Mr. Earl Houser.

Guests attending included Mrs. Florence Trent, of Appomattox, mother of the bride-elect; Mrs. Donald W. Houser, Sr., Churchville, Va., mother of the groom-elect; Mrs. Thomas Hunter, Swoope, Va. and Mrs. B.J. Pitsenburger of Churchville, aunts of the groom.

The Trent-Houser wedding will be an event of the afternoon of June 11 at Liberty Baptist Church in Appomattox.

Among the many nice gifts the couple received was a live Easter Bunny.

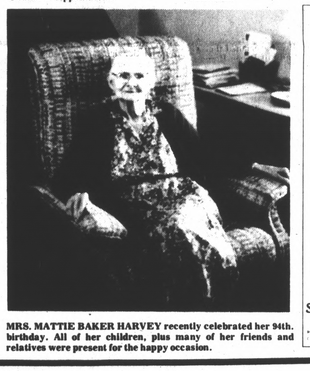
Miss Cyrus is honored

Miss Teresa Cyrus was honored with a floating miscellaneous shower given by Mrs. Brenda Doss and Mary Frances Bryant on March 12 at the Appomattox County Rescue Squad building.

Among those attending were Mrs. Harry Cyrus, mother of the bride-elect, Mrs. Calvin Smith, mother of the groom-elect, and a large number of friends and relatives.

Miss Cyrus received many nice and useful gifts.

The marriage of Miss Cyrus to Mr. Robert L. Smith will take place April 16, 1983 at Liberty Baptist Church in Appomattox.



MRS. MATTIE BAKER HARVEY recently celebrated her 94th. birthday. All of her children, plus many of her friends and relatives were present for the happy occasion.

Debra Joan Rowe

Miss Rowe to marry

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil J. Rowe of Appomattox announce the engagement of their daughter, Debra Joan, to Walter Alan Nurmi, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene O. Nurmi of Lynchburg.

Miss Rowe is a graduate of Lynchburg College where she received a B.A. in English literature-writing. She is employed by WSET-TV.

Mr. Nurmi was graduated from the University of Virginia with a B.S. degree in architecture. He is an employee of the Proehl Co.

A May wedding is planned.

Garden Clubs to gather in Lynchburg

The spring meeting of the South Central District of Virginia Federation Garden Clubs will be held Wednesday, April 6, 1983 at 10 a.m. in the River Ridge Mall Community Room.

Special guests at this meeting will be Mrs. Edward J. Hennessy, Mr. and Mrs. Albert S. Beech and Mrs. Charles T. Moses, Jr.

State life memberships will be presented.

The program will be a standard flower show entitled "Virginia's Heritage". The show, featuring artistic designs and horticulture specimens, will be presnted in the Mall from 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. and is open to the public. One of the Educational Exhibits will be a display of new and unusual daffodils. Mrs. John M. Dotten of Lynchburg serves as flower show chairman.

AWC plans to meet Monday

The April meeting of the Appomattox Woman's Club will be held Monday night, April 4, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. at the Triangle Plaza Branch of Farmers National Bank. The Conservation Department is in charge of the program and will have as speaker a representative of Virginia Electric and Power Company discussing Energy Conservation. All members are urged to attend. Hostesses for the meeting are Carol Taylor, Madeline Thomas, Louise Plunkett, Kitty McDaniel and Shirlee McDaniel.

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